



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/687,114	10/12/2000	Rick Allen Hamilton II	AUS9-2000-0440-US1	1001
7590	12/17/2003		EXAMINER	
Duke W Yee Carstens Yee & Cahoon LLP P O Box 802334 Dallas, TX 75380			NGUYEN, HAI V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2142	
DATE MAILED: 12/17/2003				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/687,114	HAMILTON ET AL.
	Examiner Hai V. Nguyen	Art Unit 2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 October 2000.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the application filed on 12 October 2000.
2. Claims 1-30 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Tawil et al. U.S. patent no. 6,421,723 B1** in view of **Nolan et al. U.S. patent no. 6,640,278 B1**.

5. As to claim 1, Tawil, Method And System For Establishing A Storage Area Network Configuration, discloses a method for configuring a storage area network, the method comprising the steps of: collecting operating system data for a server, wherein the server is connected to a storage area network (*Tawil, Abstract, col.3, lines 5-15*); However, Tawil does not explicitly disclose comparing operating system data for the server to operating system data of the storage area network; and configuring an operating system of the server based on the comparison, wherein the server operating system is automatically configured to allow the server to access the storage area network. Thus, the artisan would have been motivated to look into the related networking art for potential system and method for implementing comparing operating system data for the server to operating system data of the storage area network; and

configuring an operating system of the server based on the comparison, wherein the server operating system is automatically configured to allow the server to access the storage area network.

In the same field of endeavor, Nolan, related Method For Configuration And Management Of Storage Resources In A Storage Network, discloses, a storage transaction interface is mapped to one of the configured data paths, and thereby controlled within a storage domain managed and configured in the storage domain manager (*Nolan* (col. 3, lines 1-12; col. 26, lines 24-55)).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the networking art at the time the invention made to have incorporated Nolan's teachings of the storage management of resources in storage area network with the teachings of Twil, for the purpose of providing for heterogeneous interoperability of storage systems and protocols and for secured centralized management, scalability and high performance (*Nolan*, col. 3, lines 13-20, col. 35, lines 48-67).

6. As to claim 2, Twil-Nolan discloses, further comprising: receiving a server configuration file identifier, wherein the server configuration file identifier corresponds to a server configuration file (*Twil, Abstract*, col. 2, lines 57-64).

7. As to claim 3, Twil-Nolan discloses, wherein the server configuration file comprises at least one record, wherein the record comprises at least one of an Internet protocol address and an operating system file (*Nolan, Fig. 19, item 146; col. 22, lines 23-38*).

8. As to claim 4, Twil-Nolan discloses, wherein receiving the server configuration file identifier is at least one of reading the server configuration file identifier from the server configuration file and prompting for the server configuration file identifier (*Nolan, Fig 1`9, item 1457*).

9. As to claim 5, Twil-Nolan discloses, wherein allowing the server to access the storage area network comprises allowing the server to access at least one of a disk storage device and a tape storage device within the storage area network (*Nolan, Fig. 22, item 1550*).

10. As to claim 6, Twil-Nolan discloses, wherein comparing operating system data for the server to operating system data of the storage area network is at least one of a Solaris™ operating system, an AIX™ operating system, and a Windows NT™ operating system (*Nolan, variety of different platforms, col. 5, lines 55-67*).

11. As to claim 7, Twil-Nolan discloses, further comprising: appending an information message to a server configuration file, wherein the information message contains details of the server operating system configuration (*Nolan, col. 18, lines 29 – col. 19, line 64*).

12. As to claim 8, Twil-Nolan discloses, further comprising: conveying an error message, wherein the error message indicates that the connected server operating system is not supported by the storage area network (*Nolan, Fig. 31, item 356, col. 30, lines 47 – col. 31, line 4*).

13. As to claim 9, Twil-Nolan discloses, wherein conveying the error message is by at least one of printing the error message and visually displaying the error message (*Nolan, Fig. 31, item 356, col. 30, lines 47 – col. 31, line 4*).

14. As to claim 10, Twil-Nolan discloses, further comprising: configuring an operating system of a client, wherein the client is connected to the server to allow the client to access the storage area network.

15. Claim 11 recites a system corresponding to the method of operations of claim 1. The system claim is obvious in that it is simply follows the logical implementation of the method of operations indicated in the referenced claims to perform each of logical steps of coordinating to configure a storage area network that results from the reference discussed above regarding the claim to the method of operations. Thus, the system described in claim 11 would have been obvious in view of the elements provided in the references, which correspond to the steps in the method of operations for the same reasons discussed above regarding claim 1.

16. Claims 12-20 are similar limitations of claims 2-10; therefore, they are rejected under the same rationale as set forth in claims 2-10.

17. Claim 21 is corresponding computer program product of claim 1; therefore it is rejected under the same rational set forth as in claim 1.

18. Claims 22-30 are similar limitations of claims 2-10; therefore, they are rejected under the same rationale as set forth in claims 2-10.

Art Unit: 2142

19. Further references of interest are cited on Form PTO-892, which is an attachment to this action.

20. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai V. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-306-0276. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Harvey can be reached on 703-305-9705. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3230.

Hai V. Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 2142

(hv)


JACK B. HARVEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER